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CRC, 8/15/2003

25X1 5. [ ] Met with Senator James Abourezk and delivered the Director's letter replying to the Senator's recent letter to the Director expressing concern about certain Agency activities. Abourezk said the Director's letter was fine as far as it went and he accepted the assurances therein, but it left unanswered the question of our trying to manipulate the governments of other nations. I pointed out that, in accordance with the National Security Act, any political operations were undertaken only under the direction of higher authority, that CIA was a service organization and we didn't make policy but carried out orders from our superiors. I said that, of course, there had been times when we had been involved in covert operations but many of the current rumors about such involvement were completely unfounded, and I mentioned recent developments [ ]

25X1 [ ] I said we welcome a chance to set the record straight and if he had any questions from time to time we would be glad to hear from him. I assured him that he would always get one of two answers--either a completely frank and candid answer, or else a statement that these were matters we were not free to discuss without the approval of our Subcommittee chairmen. He said this was fair enough. In conclusion he said Senator Symington had suggested to him that he get acquainted with the Director and he would very much like to have a meeting, perhaps a lunch. I said I was sure the Director would welcome this and we would be in touch with his office shortly.

25X1A 6. [ ] Dr. John Brady, House Foreign Affairs Committee staff, visited Headquarters for a meeting with [ ]

25X1A [ ] EA Division, and myself. In brief, there is an additional

STATOTHR letter from [ ]

25X1C [ ] Chairman Lester Wolff, of the ad hoc Subcommittee on Narcotics, has forwarded copies of the letter to the Acting Secretary of State and Acting Director, Drug Enforcement Administration. The meeting was most cordial and will be followed by further meetings as the report on the recent survey trip to Southeast Asia takes form. See [ ] Memo for the Record.

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